15

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

- 1. An Internet facsimile gateway apparatus that is connected to a general switched telephone network and an IP network and relays facsimile communication
- 5 between said general switched telephone network and said IP network, comprising:

first communicating means for performing procedural processing of facsimile transmission in said general switched telephone network;

second communicating means for performing procedural processing of facsimile transmission in said IP network; and

controlling means for controlling a transmission timing of a signal transmitted from said first communicating means based on a signal received by said second communicating means.

2. The Internet facsimile gateway apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said controlling means has a pseudo signal generating means for generating a pseudo signal of a control signal to be used in procedures of facsimile transmission in said general switched telephone network, and, after said second communicating means receives a predetermined signal, transmits said pseudo signal after a predetermine time via said first communicating means.

10

15

20

- 3. The Internet facsimile gateway apparatus according to claim 1, wherein, after said second communicating means accumulates received signals for a predetermined period of time, said controlling means transmits the accumulated signals via said first communicating means.
- 4. The Internet facsimile gateway apparatus according to claim 2, wherein said pseudo signal is a signal for establishing synchronism between transmission/reception apparatuses.
- 5. The Internet facsimile gateway apparatus according to claim 2, wherein said predetermined period of time is a length of time defined by procedures for facsimile transmission in said general switched telephone network.
- 6. A method for controlling an Internet facsimile gateway apparatus that is connected to a general switched telephone network and an IP network and relays facsimile communication between the general switched telephone network and the IP network, comprising:
- a first communication step of performing procedural processing of facsimile transmission in said general switched telephone network;
- a second communication step of performing procedural processing of facsimile transmission in said IP network; and

a control step for controlling a transmission timing of a signal transmitted by said first communication step based on a signal received by said second communication step.

5

7. The method for controlling an Internet facsimile gateway apparatus according to claim 6, wherein said controlling step has a pseudo signal generating step for generating a pseudo signal of a control signal to be used in procedures of facsimile transmission in said general switched telephone network, and, after said second communicating step receives a predetermined signal, transmits said pseudo signal after a predetermine time by said first communicating step.

15

20

25

10

- 8. The method for controlling an Internet facsimile gateway apparatus according to claim 6, wherein, after said second communicating step accumulates received signals for a predetermined period of time, said controlling step transmits the accumulated signals by said first communicating step.
- 9. The method for controlling an Internet facsimile gateway apparatus according to claim 7, wherein said pseudo signal is a signal for establishing synchronism between transmission/reception apparatuses.

5

10

15

- 10. The method for controlling an Internet facsimile gateway apparatus according to claim 7, wherein said predetermined period of time is a length of time defined by procedures for facsimile transmission in said general switched telephone network.
- 11. A computer readable recording medium that stores a control program of an Internet facsimile gateway apparatus that is connected to a general switched telephone network and an IP network and relays facsimile communication between the general switched telephone network and the IP network, comprising:

a program of a first communication step for performing procedural processing of facsimile transmission in said general switched telephone network;

a program of a second communication step for performing procedural processing of facsimile transmission in said IP network; and

a program of a control step for controlling a transmission timing of a signal transmitted by said program of said first communication step based on a signal received by said program of said second communication step.